



# Newsabout

Epping Church of Christ

19 December 2025

Growing in Christ



Gathering in Love



Going in Grace



☆  
*Merry  
Christmas*  
..... *and* .....  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
~~~~~



As we joyfully wrap up the year, we'd love to share some festive updates with you! This week's NewsAbout is our final church news edition for 2025, so if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the church office.

We're especially looking forward to **Sunday, 21 December**, when we'll gather for a beautiful outdoor candlelight Christmas carol service. There will be no morning service and no livestream on this day as we come together in the evening to celebrate the season. Our Christmas Day service will be livestreamed, and this will be the last livestreamed service for 2025.

**LIVE STREAMING**



After Christmas, we'll ease into the holidays with our Sunday Unplugged gatherings on 28 December and 4 January, sharing worship and breakfast together in the hall. Throughout January, our services will be simpler, more relaxed, and intentionally restful, with livestreams resuming on the first Sunday in February. Thank you for being part of our church family as we celebrate this special season together! 🎄 ✨

## Our Values Statement

*Epping Church of Christ – Disciples from all generations and nations, Growing in Christ, Gathering in Love, Going in Grace.*

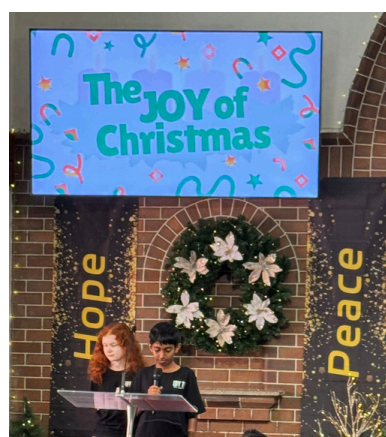
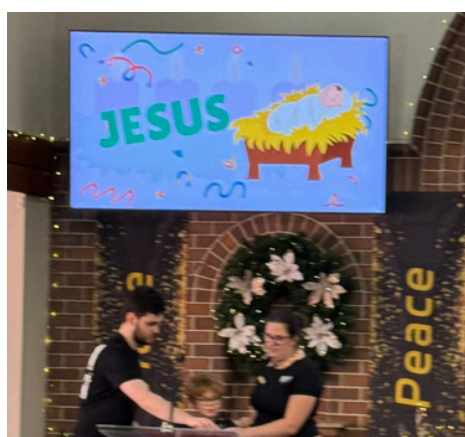
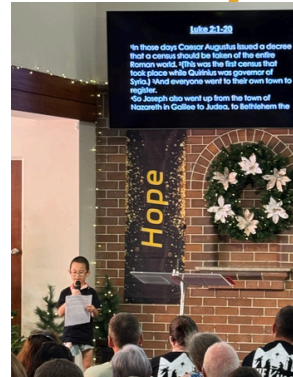
This Sunday marks the final week of Advent, and the theme for the week is **Love**.

Advent is the season of hopeful waiting and preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. As we reflect on the journey of Advent, may our hearts be filled with the joy, hope, peace, and love that only He can give.

**ADVENT BOOKLET**



We hope you enjoyed last Sunday's **Children Take the Stage** service – it was a wonderful and meaningful celebration. A special thank you to Katie and her team, and to all of our children, for the joy and faith they shared with us. Please note that SMK and Youth are now on term break and will resume in the first week of February. During this time, children will join us in our Sunday services, giving our leaders a well-deserved holiday break. Parents are still encouraged to log in to Wonder Ink and RightNow Media for kid-friendly devotionals and Christian shows throughout the term break.





# *Urgent Call for Garden Volunteers This Summer!*

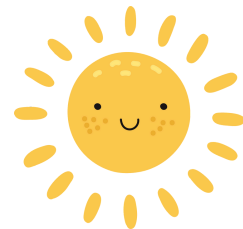
We urgently need volunteers to help with a few simple but essential tasks over the hot months ahead:

- Keeping weeds under control
- Watering plants
- Picking up leaves

No green thumb required – just bring a smile and a willing heart!

We're asking each volunteer to commit to a 2-week slot between December and March. If you can help, please write your name on the roster in the church office for the period you can cover.

Let's care for God's church together – your help is needed now!



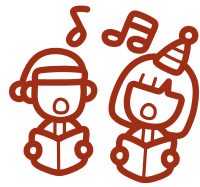
Join us on the Deck to celebrate Christmas with carols, stories, and free yummy sausage sizzle!

**SATURDAY**

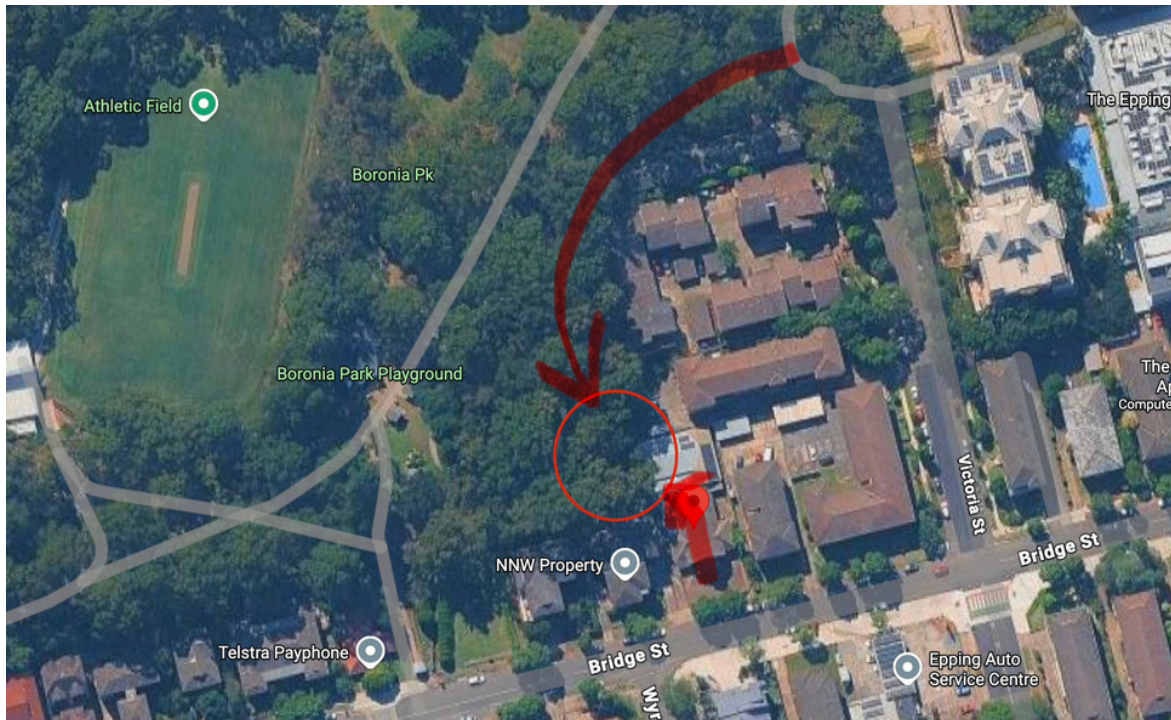
DECEMBER **20** AT 5PM

16 SHORTLAND STREET TELOPEA





## CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CAROLS SERVICE



If weather permits (not extremely hot or raining), join us on **21 December** at **5pm** for our **Christmas Carols Candlelight Service**, meeting in the Boronia Park area behind the church (shown by the red circle on the map above). You can access the location through the back of the church hall (down in the dungeon) or directly from Boronia Park. While access through the church is easiest, those with strollers or wheelchairs/walkers are encouraged to enter via Boronia Park from the Java House Café side (see the red arrow).

Please note there will be no morning service on this day as we gather in the evening for a beautiful night of carols, candlelight, and Christmas cheer. Bring your picnic mats and lawn chairs, invite friends and family, and enjoy a festive community celebration under the evening sky.

If anything changes, we will notify you by email and/or SMS before the service. We can't wait to share this special night with you!





# Christmas Day Service

You're warmly invited to join us on Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of Jesus – the greatest gift to humankind. Our service begins at **9:30am**, and we'd love for you to bring your friends and family along. What a beautiful way to start your Christmas Day in worship, before continuing the celebrations throughout this festive season!

At Epping Church of Christ, we treasure the tradition of giving a special Christmas Day donation beyond our regular tithes, as a way to celebrate God's love and share it with others. This year, your gift will support mission work, making a meaningful impact both near and far.

On the day, you can give digitally via a QR code, bring cash marked "Christmas Day donation", or tap to donate at the church office after the service.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider joining in this heartfelt act of generosity, celebrating the true spirit of Christmas by blessing others as Christ has blessed us. Thank you for helping us shine His light in the world!

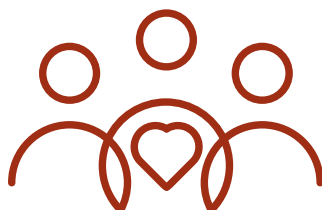
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## Sunday Unplugged

On **28 December** and **4 January**, join us for Sunday Unplugged – a relaxed, post-Christmas way to worship together. These informal services offer a gentle, unhurried pace, with time to enjoy breakfast together, kindly served by Mark and Pam Langford.

Mark has started a wonderful charity - **Sidewalk Social**, which cooks meals for the homeless. We kindly ask for a **minimum donation of \$7 per person or \$20 per family** on each of these two Sundays. A small portion of your donation will go to the church to help cover ingredient costs, with the majority supporting Mark's charity.

Come with an open heart to celebrate God's presence, connect with one another, and reflect on the joy of being part of our church family in a warm, casual setting.







**Hope Connect**

*Celebrating 50 years serving the community*



We would like to express our deep gratitude to the ECC congregation members who continue to

- Pray for our work & our team
- give so that others less fortunate can be blessed.

Christmas Appeal 2025;

Thanks to the generosity of ECC and other community groups we have been able to provide 44 hampers to those doing it tough in our community. The total value of our Christmas Appeal this year exceeds \$7,000. Work we could not have done without your help!

**NEW INITIATIVE - Community Foodcare Program:**

Works are underway to refurbish the lower level of the Telopea facility to enable our Community FoodCare Program to commence early 2026.

Community Foodcare is a multi-faceted program that provides a place for low-income earners to shop for affordable groceries on a regular basis. This helps their grocery dollar go much further and provides, dignity, personal agency, and reduces reliance on emergency relief and crisis intervention.

The free morning tea provides a place of social connection & community!

We are looking for volunteers for this vital ministry and will bring more news of this as we get closer!

Thanks again for your amazing support!

Happy Christmas from the team at Hope Connect.

Director of Community Initiatives

ECC – "I would like to continue with expressions of my gratitude to the ECC congregation members who continue to give so that others less fortunate can be blessed."

Family Support Team Leader



# WAZZA'S CHRISTMAS DINNER & CAROLS



Wazza Christmas Carols & Dinner on Thursday night was such a lovely evening, filled with festive singing, good conversation, and lots of Christmas joy. It was great to see so many people come along to sing carols and enjoy a meal together.

A big thank you to Gordon and Gwyn for hosting, and to all our wonderful volunteers — from leading the carols to cooking, serving, setting up, and cleaning up. We couldn't have done it without you!

## *mainly music & Wazzas on Break*

mainly music and Wazzas are now on term break to give our wonderful volunteers a well-deserved rest and time to enjoy the holidays with family and friends. mainly music will resume on **11 February** 2026, and Wazzas will return on the **first Thursday of Term 1**, 2026. We look forward to welcoming back our mainly music children and families, as well as Wazzas regulars and new friends, for another fun and joyful year together!

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Dear Church Family,

As we come to the close of another wonderful year, the church staff team wants to take a moment to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We are deeply grateful for your unwavering love, support, prayers, and generosity throughout the year. Your willingness to volunteer your time, contribute to the ministry, and share your hearts has made an incredible difference – our church truly would not be the same without you.

We also understand that the holiday season can be a difficult time for some. Please know that you will be kept close to our hearts in prayer, and we warmly invite you to reach out to us whenever you need support – we would love to walk alongside you in any way we can. Remember, you are deeply loved by our Heavenly Father, and we love you too.

Looking ahead to the new year, we are excited to continue building a stronger, more connected community, nurturing meaningful relationships, and extending the Kingdom of Heaven to our neighbours, friends, and beyond. Together, we can keep growing in faith, love, and service.

We leave you with this blessing from Philippians 1:3-4:

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy."

May your hearts be filled with joy, peace, and hope this Christmas season and throughout the coming year.

With love and gratitude,

*Your ECC Team*



# Connect Group Spotlight

Each week, we highlight one of our Connect Groups – where we grow in Christ, share life, and walk in faith together. Leaders can share updates, events, or prayer requests here, and anyone wanting to join a group or start a new one can reach out to our Pastoral or Admin Team. *Come find your tribe!*

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Last but not least, our **Telopea Connect Group**, which originally started at Telopea Church of Christ, continues to meet after merging with Epping Church of Christ. Led by Mike & Sue Fewchuck, this group gathers every two weeks on Thursdays.

## *Trivia Question:*

*Since the beginning of the Connect Group Spotlight, how many Connect Groups have we introduced in the NewsAbout?*

# Conference Executive Announcement

18 December 2025



**churches  
of Christ**  
in NSW & ACT



## **CCNSWACT Director of Ministry recruitment**

A shortlisted group of candidates are currently part of the interview process for this role. Conference Executive expects to bring a further update in early 2026.

## **Fresh Hope Communities Board Chair**

Conference Executive has appointed Professor Stephen Smith as the Fresh Hope Communities (FHC) Board Chair effective from 17 December 2025, he is an active member of Pathways Community (Pendle Hill Church of Christ).

Professor Smith is an experienced consultant in the Aged Care and Welfare sector and holds a PhD from the University of Sydney (Community and Behavioural Health), a Doctor of Management (Organisational Development), Master of Business Law, Master of Business Administration and other qualifications in Theology and Counselling. He will remain as a serving member of Conference Executive and has been appointed to the role for the next 12 months, following the recent completion of a three-year term by current chair, Raewyn Williams.

Conference Executive is deeply appreciative of Ms Williams' leadership of the board since her appointment in 2022, including overseeing the recruitment of the newly appointed Fresh Hope Communities CEO, Ruth Jothy, who will take up her role in February 2026. Conference Executive will continue to work with the FHC board towards a permanent board chair appointment.

Your prayers for our board members as they seek to serve our network of churches and entities into 2026 are greatly appreciated.





## How Can You Help?



### Fundraising Dinner Success

For the success of our JUST Hope Fundraising Dinner. With just under 180 people in the room on the night, there was a high level of interest in the work we do and the impact it has. We are grateful for the generosity of those who gave on the night and those who committed to ongoing support.

### Our Volunteers

For our wonderful volunteers who give their time every week to make sure our telephone advice line and face to face clinics run smoothly and our clients are welcomed and cared for during what is usually a time of heightened emotions and stress.

Give Thanks

Please Pray

### Staff and Team

For our staff and team who have had a busy year. Pray that they would know Christ's presence with them as they continue to help clients in the lead up to Christmas and that they would each be refreshed and strengthened over the Christmas break.

### Clients at Christmas Time

For our clients and their families as they approach Christmas, with all the added complexities and emotions this season can bring. Pray for peace, joy and family focused solutions as they navigate their way through this time.



*Selah – A Weekend to Pause, Reflect, and Rest in His Presence*

### Date of event

16 January 2026 - 18 January 2026

### Venue

51 Bendena Gardens, Stanwell Tops NSW 2508

### Cost

\$190 (Individual) | \$330 (Couples)

Payment plan available: Reserve your spot with just \$60 (individual) or \$100 (couple). Pay the rest in chunks or in full before camp.

MORE INFO

REGISTER NOW

Hooray for You!

December

2025

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

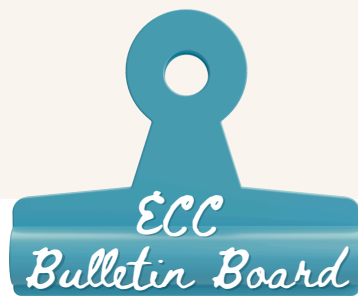
Thursday

Friday

Saturday

|           |    |                  |              |               |              |    |
|-----------|----|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----|
|           | 1  | 2                | 3            | 4<br>JENNY F. | 5            | 6  |
| 7         | 8  | 9<br>OLIVER      | 10           | 11            | 12           | 13 |
| 14        | 15 | 16<br>BEC<br>COL | 17           | 18<br>RAY     | 19           | 20 |
| 21        | 22 | 23               | 24           | 25            | 26<br>MARGIE | 27 |
| 28<br>TOM | 29 | 30               | 31<br>BEN R. |               |              |    |





## *Get Involved - Make a difference*

Church is a family, and every part matters. There are many ways you can use your gifts and time to serve at Epping Church of Christ.

Here are some positions you can consider:

- SMK leader
- Youth leader
- mainly music volunteer
- During the morning service
  - Announcements Leader
  - Bible Reader
  - Corporate Prayer Leader
  - Communion Server
  - Communion Talk
  - Worship Team
  - Sound Tech
  - Presenter
- Pre/Post Service
  - Door Hosts
  - Morning Tea Crew
  - Communion Prep
  - Communion Wash-up
  - Offering Count
- WAZZAS – dinner to serve the community in Telopea every Thursday during school term at 16 Shortland Street, Telopea



[Want to serve at church?](#) Fill in our volunteer interest form online ([link here](#) or scan the QR code) or sign up in person at the church office!



[Want to volunteer at WAZZAS?](#) Email **Gordon & Gwyn Bromhead** at [wazzas@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:wazzas@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au).

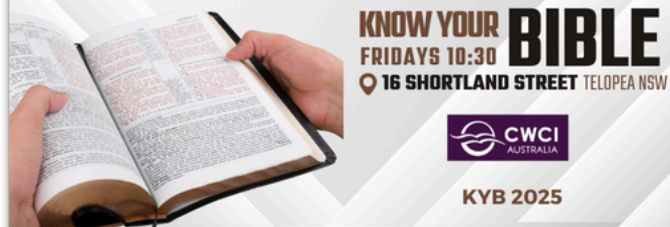
Together, let's build up God's church and bless our community!



NEW  
**UPDATE**

### KYB Study

Our KYB study will be in recess until the New Year. We'll resume on Friday **30 January** with an introduction to our new study on Psalms (same time, same place). More details will be shared closer to the date.



Please note that we will not be having our monthly "Coffee with Justin" in 2026. However, Pastor Justin is available for one-to-one appointments each week, and we strongly encourage you to schedule time to connect with him outside of Sunday services.

Need some guidance, support, or just a friendly chat? Booking time with Justin is easy—just click [\[here\]](#) or scan the QR code to choose a time that works for you!



Great Gift  
*Sunday*

**2025 CATALOGUE**

The Great Gifts Catalogue is here! Pick up a copy at church or explore it online to discover meaningful ways to give and make a real difference in communities near and far.

Wonder Ink  
**WONDER@HOME**

A Family Portal, easily accessible online. Inside, you'll find a wealth of resources, including engaging Bible story videos, the series' memory verse, thought-provoking discussion questions, hands-on activities to solidify the lessons from the Bible, and much more!



**REGISTER**



**LOGIN**





### *Elvanto Video 101*



### *Thinking about Baptism?*

Baptism is a public declaration of faith in Jesus – symbolising new life, forgiveness, and being welcomed into God's family. It's also a step of obedience, following the example Jesus set for us.

If you're curious, interested, or ready to take that step, our pastoral team would love to walk with you. Feel free to contact Justin, Rees, or Katie to find out more.

### *Elvanto*

Stay connected with our church community! Log in to the database to check the directory, serving roster, groups, and update your details today.

Click "LOG IN" or scan the QR code. Need help? Contact the church office.

**LOG IN**



### *Prayer Requests?*

It's a true blessing to pray for one another as a church family. If you have a need or something on your heart, we'd love to stand with you in prayer.

- **Share in Newsabout**

Send your prayer request to the church office to be included in the Newsabout. This gives our whole community the opportunity to support you in prayer.

- **Need Private Prayer?**

We also have a confidential prayer chain. For more personal or sensitive requests, email [prayer@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:prayer@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au), and our trusted prayer team will be praying for you.

### *Want to Pray for Others?*

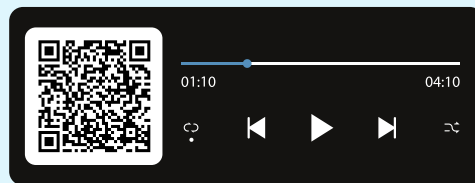
If your heart is moved to support others through prayer, we warmly invite you to join our prayer chain. Simply email the church office, and we'll gladly welcome you onto the team.

Together, we can carry each other's burdens, celebrate each other's joys, and surround our church family with the powerful gift of prayer. Your prayers make a real difference — let's stand together and lift one another up in faith and love.



## *ECC Songlist*

Get familiar with the worship songs we sing at church – or sing along with your children at home! Our ECC playlist is available for you to listen to anytime. Simply scan the QR code to access the Spotify list or click [here](#).



## *Stay Connected on YouVersion*

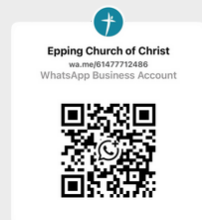


📱 Use the Bible App?

Add **Epping Church of Christ**  
as your church on the app  
scan the QR code

Access plans, updates & more!  
Let's grow in God's Word –  
together.

## *ECC on Whatsapp*



Add ECC  
WhatsApp  
Number



Join ECC  
Congregation  
Group Chat



# DONATION OPPORTUNITIES



Funds for the Telopea Shed, Material Aid and Emergency Relief.

You can make a tax-deductible donation by direct deposit to:

Hope Connect Inc

BSB: **082 186**

Account Number: **04609 8955**

Email the church office and we can organise a receipt from HopeConnect for you.



Telopea and Epping Religious Education Fund (TEREF)

Scripture in schools is a valuable service our local churches offer. Support this fund that enables **Rees** to teach Special Religious Education (SRE) at Epping Boys High School. Your tax-deductible donation makes it possible.

BSB **082-186**

Account No. **533580802**.

Include your name in the description so a receipt can be issued.

Support the impactful work of Horizons by making a tax-deductible donation.



Scan the QR code or visit [horizonsfamilylaw.org.au](http://horizonsfamilylaw.org.au)

## OpenDoors®

Here's how you can contribute:

- Visit [www.opendoors.org.au/asia](http://www.opendoors.org.au/asia)
- Click on "Give Now"
- Enter your first name and last name
- In the 'Church Name' field, please type 'Epping Church of Christ' to ensure your donation is correctly tracked to our church's profile.



Medical Santo is facing an increasing demand for medications and rising costs.

To address these challenges, they need additional resources to support the clinic.

Your generous tax-deductible donations will help them meet these needs and continue their mission. Thank you for your support.



To support and contribute to the work of OBC, please consider making a donation. Your generosity helps sustain our mission and initiatives.



Or make a donation by direct deposit to:  
Online Bible College  
BSB: **032-501**  
ACC: **162151**



SYDNEY  
refugee  
TEAM

Alison is currently serving as a full-time volunteer staff member with the Sydney Refugee Team and in Member Care/Spiritual Direction. As she dedicates her time and energy to these important ministries, we invite you to consider supporting her financially.



### Support SRE in Epping and Carlingford Schools

We need your help to continue providing Special Religious Education (SRE) in Epping and Carlingford schools. Your donation will support SRE programs and fund **Linda Quinn's** coordination role in several Carlingford schools.





Our what's-on calendar can be synced to iCal, Outlook, or Google.  
Find it at [www.eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](http://www.eppingchurchofchrist.org.au) → Church Attendee Hubs  
→ Calendar. Check it out!



# Dec 2025

| Sunday Speakers |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 25/12           | Christmas Day Service |
| 28/12           | Sunday Unplugged      |

| SUN                                                                                                                                    | MON | TUE                                                                                                                                         | WED                                                                                                                                      | THU                                                                                                                    | FRI                                     | SAT                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 30                                                                                                                                     | 1   | 2<br><br>Coffee with<br>Justin @ Java House<br>Cafe Epping | 3                                                                                                                                        | 4                                                                                                                      | 5                                       | 6                                                |
| 7<br><br>CONNECT<br>GROUP<br>LEADER<br>MEETING       | 8   | 9                                                                                                                                           | 10<br><br>mainly<br>music<br>Christmas<br>Celebraione | 11<br><br>WAZZAS                   | 12<br><br>Friday<br>youth<br>LAST NIGHT | 13                                               |
| 14<br><br>CHILDREN TAKE<br>THE STAGE                 | 15  | 16                                                                                                                                          | 17                                                                                                                                       | 18<br><br>WAZZAS<br>CHRISTMAS<br>DINNER<br>& CAROLS                                                                    | 19<br><br>LAST DAY OF TERM 4            | 20<br><br>COMMUNITY<br>Christmas<br>CAROLS & BBQ |
| 21<br><br>CHRISTMAS<br>CANDLELIGHT<br>CAROLS SERVICE | 22  | 23                                                                                                                                          | 24                                                                                                                                       | 25<br><br>CHRISTMAS DAY<br>SERVICE | 26                                      | 27                                               |
| 28<br><br>SUNDAY                                     | 29  | 30                                                                                                                                          | 1                                                                                                                                        | 2                                                                                                                      | 3                                       | 4                                                |

# GIVING

There are several ways you can process your giving:  
Simply visit our website, use Elvanto, direct transfer, in person on Sunday or contact the office if you wish to arrange to drop it off.  
Thank you for supporting the ministry in and through our church.



## KEEP IN TOUCH

We love to hear from you!

Feel free to let us know of things to celebrate and news to share.

**office@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au** or call us **9876 3370**.

## ECC PASTORS, ELDERS & STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR: [Justin Campbell](mailto:justin@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au) 0405 144 797  
[justin@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:justin@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: [Rees Wilson](mailto:rees@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au) 0433 030 214  
[rees@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:rees@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
CHILDREN & FAMILIES PASTOR: [Katie Lundberg](mailto:katie@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
[katie@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:katie@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
ELDERS: [David Kelly, Joyce Chew, Rick Lewis, Ruth Stevens, Gwyn Bromhead, Jonathan Richardson](mailto:elders@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
[elders@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:elders@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
ELDER OBSERVERS: [Rachael Cornish, Jonathan Cheung](mailto:elders@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
TREASURER: [David Prees](mailto:elders@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
PRAYER CHAIN: [prayer@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:prayer@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: [David Elsmore, Les Gainer, Adam Lungberg, Mark Baker, Jonathan Richardson, Alan Thomas](mailto:propertymanagers@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
[Thomas](mailto:propertymanagers@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
WAZZAS: [Gordon & Gwyn Bromhead](mailto:wazzas@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
[wazzas@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:wazzas@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
CHURCH OFFICE: [Kathy Edwards and Karen Law-Cheung](mailto:office@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)  
9876 3370 | [office@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:office@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)

Office hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10 am - 2 pm  
Additional contact hours: Thursdays: 2 pm - 3 pm  
(by email, WhatsApp, or phone) Fridays: 1 pm - 3 pm



 31 Bridge Street, Epping, NSW 2121

*The Elders are available for various pastoral concerns, ranging from needs or problems you are facing in ministries, counselling, prayer and Christian growth. Please raise your need with them.*

National Australia Bank (NAB)

A/C Name:

**Epping Church of Christ Inc.**

BSB No: **082-186**

Account No: **50 924 3830**



### Management Committee

**Guy Collishaw** – President

Jennifer Yuan

Jonathan Barnett

Heather Lewis

Anne Harris

Rick Lewis

**16 Shortland Street**

**Telopea**

[www.hopeconnect.org.au](http://www.hopeconnect.org.au)



Safe Church  
Policy



Safe Church  
Concerns Form

### Safe Spaces Team:

**Anne Harris, Brigitte Carroll, Colin Reid**

**[CSSTeam@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au](mailto:CSSTeam@eppingchurchofchrist.org.au)**

Epping Church of Christ acknowledges God as the Creator of all things — and over all people.

As Psalm 24 says, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."

We recognise that we gather and minister on the land of the Wallumedegal people of the Dharug nation, the original custodians, entrusted by God with its care.

We respect Elders past and present, and we affirm our call, as followers of Jesus, to walk humbly on this land in the way of peace and reconciliation.

